



Australian Bureau of Statistics

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Summary

About this Release

ABS surveys of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population are both complex and expensive due to high levels of screening in non-remote areas. The 2008 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey is using a new geographical unit, the meshblock. This paper outlines the new meshblock design and investigates the accuracy implications of meshblock-level sampling, concentrating on the effects of migration between Census and survey.

We show that a meshblock-based unbiased design achieves some reduction in screening compared to census collection district based designs used in the past, but this reduction is limited by the timeliness of the frame data. Further reductions in screening require accepting an increased level of undercoverage.

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